

AMENDMENTS

In the Claims:

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the above-referenced application:

- 1 1. (Currently amended) A communications module, comprising:
2 a data channel operable to translate data signals in at least one direction
3 between a transmission cable interface and a host device interface and having a
4 variably configurable termination impedance at a host device node connectable to a
5 host device; and
6 a termination impedance controller operable to set the variably configurable
7 termination impedance of the data channel, wherein the communications module is
8 stored before the variably configurable termination impedance of the data channel is
9 set.

- 1 2. (Original) The communications module of claim 1, wherein the
2 data channel comprises a variable resistance circuit at the host device node.

- 1 3. (Original) The communications module of claim 2, wherein the
2 variable resistance circuit comprises a transistor with a voltage-controlled resistance
3 value.

- 1 4. (Original) The communications module of claim 2, wherein the
2 variable resistance circuit comprises a resistor connected in series with a switch.

- 1 5. (Original) The communications module of claim 2, wherein the
2 variable resistance circuit presents different termination impedances at the host device
3 node in response to receipt of different respective electrical control signals from the
4 termination impedance controller.

1 6. (Original) The communications module of claim 2, wherein the
2 variable resistance circuit comprises a mechanical switch for selectively connecting
3 the host device node to different termination impedances, and the termination
4 impedance controller enables manual control of the mechanical switch.

1 7. (Original) The communications module of claim 1, wherein the
2 termination impedance controller is operable to selectively set the variably
3 configurable termination impedance of the data channel to a differential resistance of
4 150 Ohms in a first configuration mode and set the variably configurable termination
5 impedance of the data channel to a differential resistance of 100 Ohms in a second
6 configuration mode.

1 8. (Original) The communications module of claim 1, further
2 comprising a housing containing the data channel.

1 9. (Original) The communications module of claim 8, wherein the
2 housing has a transmission cable interface end and a host device interface end.

1 10. (Original) The communications module of claim 9, wherein the
2 host device interface end of the housing is pluggable into a receptacle of a host
3 device.

1 11. (Original) The communications module of claim 1 implemented in
2 accordance with a small form pluggable (SFP) configuration or a small form factor
3 (SFF) configuration.

1 12. (Original) The communications module of claim 1 implemented in
2 accordance with a Giga-Bit Interface Converter (GBIC) configuration.

1 13. (Original) The communications module of claim 1, wherein the
2 data channel provides multiple channel transmission of data in at least one direction
3 between the transmission cable interface and the host device interface.

1 14. (Original) The communications module of claim 1, wherein the
2 data channel is operable to translate data signals in both directions between the
3 transmission cable interface and the host device interface.

1 15. (Currently amended) A communications module comprising:
2 a receiver data channel operable to translate data signals from a transmission
3 cable interface to a host device interface and a transmitter data channel operable to
4 translate data signals from the host device interface to the transmission cable
5 interface, wherein each of the receiver data channel and the transmitter data channel
6 has a respective variably configurable termination impedance at a respective host
7 device node connectable to the host device;
8 a termination impedance controller operable to set the respective variably
9 configurable termination impedance of each of the receiver data channel and the
10 transmitter data channel; and
11 a housing containing the receiver data channel, the transmitter data channel,
12 and the termination impedance controller, and having a transmission cable interface
13 end connectable to a transmission cable and a host device interface end connectable to
14 a host device, wherein the communications module is stored before the variably
15 configurable termination impedance of each of the receiver data channel and the
16 transmitter data channel is set.

1 16. (Original) The communications module of claim 15, wherein each
2 of the receiver data channel and the transmitter data channel comprises a respective
3 variable resistance circuit at the respective host device node.

1 17. (Original) The communications module of claim 16, wherein each
2 variable resistance circuit presents different termination impedances at the respective
3 host device node in response to receipt of different respective electrical control
4 signals from the termination impedance controller.

1 18. (Original) A method of making a communications module,
2 comprising:
3 obtaining a data channel operable to translate data signals in at least one
4 direction between a transmission cable interface and a host device interface and
5 having a variably configurable termination impedance at a host device node
6 connectable to a host device;
7 mounting the data channel in a housing having a first end connectable to a
8 transmission cable and a second end connectable to a host device;
9 storing the communications module before the variably configurable
10 termination impedance of the data channel is set; and
11 setting the variably configurable termination impedance of the data channel to
12 a termination impedance value substantially matching a target host device termination
13 impedance value.

1 19. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein the variably
2 configurable termination impedance of the data channel is set after the data channel is
3 mounted in the housing.

1 20. (Canceled)

1 21. (Previously presented) The communications module of claim 1,
2 further comprising a media connector that provides the transmission cable interface
3 and is connectable to a connector of the transmission cable.

1 22. (Previously presented) The communications module of claim 21,
2 wherein the media connector is connectable to a connector of an electrical
3 communication cable.

1 23. (Previously presented) The communications module of claim 22,
2 wherein the media connector is one of a DB-9 electrical connector, an RJ45
3 receptacle, and a HSSDC electrical connector.

1 24. (Previously presented) The communications module of claim 21,
2 wherein the media connector is connectable to a connector of an optical
3 communication cable.

1 25. (Previously presented) The communications module of claim 24,
2 wherein the media connector is one of a simple connector (SC) duplex media
3 connector, an LC connector, and a MTP/MPO connector.

1 26. (Previously presented) The communications module of claim 10,
2 wherein the housing is implemented in accordance with a pluggable communication
3 module standard selected from a Giga-Bit Interface Converter (GBIC) standard, a
4 small form physical (SFP) standard, and a small form factor (SFF) standard.